

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 5-18. Please amend Claims 1, 19 and 22. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Currently Amended) A Completely in the Canal (CIC) hearing aid body adapted to interchangeably fit inside the ear canal of either a right side or left side of an ear of a typical user such that a distal end of the body is disposed proximally adjacent to a tympanic membrane of said user, the hearing aid body comprising a semi-rigid shell that is shaped to conform to at least a first bend in an ear canal of a typical user.
2. (Original) The body of Claim 1 formed of two half shells joined together with hollow interiors for housing hearing aid components.
3. (Original) The body of Claim 2 in which a soft tip is secured at the distal end of the body.
4. (Original) The body of Claim 3 wherein the tip includes a sound port for coupling sound from a receiver housed in the body to the membrane of a hearing aid user.

Claims 5-18 (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) A hearing aid body comprising a shell which is shaped to be inserted into and useable inside the ear canal of a right ear or left ear proximal to the tympanic region of a user and which houses the requisite components for a functional hearing aid, the shell comprising a semi-rigid member that is shaped to conform to at least a first bend in an ear canal of a typical user.
20. (Previously presented) The hearing aid body of Claim 19 in which the shell is formed of two halves which are bonded together and wherein a flexible tip is retained at a distal end of the shell.

21. (Previously presented) The hearing aid body of Claim 20 in which the components include a permanently wired battery and the hearing aid body is adapted to be disposable.
22. (Currently amended) A hearing aid body formed of a semi-rigid shell enclosing hearing aid components with a flexible tip retained at one end of the shell, the shell having a shape adapted to fit in the ear canal proximal to the tympanic region of either a right or left human ear, the shell being shaped to conform to at least a first bend in an ear canal of a typical user.
23. (Previously presented) The hearing aid body of Claim 22 in which the tip contains a receiver and a sound tube extending between the receiver and a distal end of the tip.
24. (Previously presented) The hearing aid body of Claim 22 in which the shell is formed of two half-shells joined together and in which the components include a microphone, and signal processing electronics and a battery permanently wired to the electronics.